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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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CAMPAIGN POINTERS

REMEMBER THESE WHEN MAKING UP YOUR MIND.

Chameleon Candidates and Platforms—America's Proletariat Make Good Investment—The Difference Between More Pay for Bingham and More Pay for a Workingman.

If Mr. Aaron Mayer had for his purpose to raise a hornet's nest around his head he could have done no better than he did. Imagine a man suggesting to the enormously salaried railroad magnates that the solution of the problem, How to raise funds? is best solved, not by cutting wages or raising rates, but by cutting salaries—cutting them down from \$20,000, and \$25,000, \$50,000, and \$60,000 a year, down to \$10,000 and \$22,000!—Sacrilege!

Every little helps. Col. Thomas Wentworth Higginson shivers a lance for Socialism against Creelman's attack, and justifies Socialism by claiming that "Socialism has been tried and succeeded in Glasgow and Germany." True enough, this position is untenable as the well-meaning Colonel's statement in 1888, when he was a Nationalist, that the "Spaniards found Peru a heaven of Nationalism and left it a hell of individualism." Nevertheless, every little helps to knock down the grotesqueness of Creelmanism.

Taft and Bryan are busy at polishing up their acceptance speeches. The same will be so neatly polished as to satisfy the capitalist class that the two candidates are safe and sane on the subject of Prestonism, that is, they will ever consider the Union a criminal conspiracy, and picketing, accordingly, a criminal act.

Why shouldn't they? Foreign investors are rushing to buy American securities. Why shouldn't they? The semi-feudal conditions of Europe, coupled with traditional customs, deprive the European exploiters of the power to squeeze the proletariat to the extent these are squeezed in America. The European proletarians are truly productive to the European exploiter only when they are in America. There is no proletariat that yields the fleece yielded by the proletarian in America. Why shouldn't European investors rush to buy American securities? Where the carcass is thither fly the vultures.

Police Commissioner Gen. Bingham demands an appropriation of \$16,395,539 for his Department—an increase of \$2,043,039. Of this increase \$7,500 are for himself; he demands that his salary be doubled. If workingmen—that is, the producers of wealth, not the clubbers of the producers of wealth—were to demand more millions for their Department and a 100 per cent. raise of their wages, as Bingham has done for himself, the worthy Bingham would detail mounted police to trample them under their hoofs as "strikers."

The Paper Trust is getting in its innings. "Pursued," "hounded" and "harrassed" as it claims to have been this twelve months by the Trusts that control the Republican and Democratic news agencies, and which want cheaper paper, the Paper Trust now hits back—good and hard. It is in the political interests of most of the other Trusts to claim that "prosperity is returning to the workers." Calmly and coolly the Paper Trust cuts wages on the ground of "the general depression in business."

Fatality pursues the Republican and Democratic conspirators. Since their conventions adjourned events have been crowding fast to damn Rep.-Democratists and Demo.-Replists. Men on strike in Alabama shot by sheriffs; multimillionaires threatening to blow their mothers' heads; failures; bank robberies by bank presidents and their shadows the tramp-burglars, etc., etc.—a chorus that resolves itself into the note of sense:

H. L. P. S. L. P.

PRESTON and MUNRO.

"To state the case briefly," says Gompers in his "Federationist," and he then launches into a verbose clouding of the case. Briefly stated, Gompers has dragged the name of Labor through mire in which stick the feet of the plutocracy, and he has caused the Labor that follows him to pick up what crumbs it could at the selfsame feet in the selfsame mire, until finally the day has come when the selfsame feet kicked him in the face, and he is trying to conceal the fact.

"Thaw is still alive, maybe I will be,"—the words of J. A. Van Rensselaer in his letter threatening to blow off his wealthy mother's head if she does not loan him money—should be the motto of a young millionaires' club, with Thaw and Van Rensselaer as charter members.

There were no bank robbers, Pinkerton agents and other desperadoes on the juries that acquitted Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, such as were on the drum-corps jury that convicted Preston and Smith. Yet Preston and Smith are declared "justly convicted" and the same capitalist class that so declares, also declares there was a miscarriage of justice in the Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone cases.

Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Stetson, the millionaire widow of the millionaire Philadelphia hat manufacturer, will henceforth be Countess of Santa Eulalia of Portugal. The lady's action is purely charitable. The Portuguese nobility is just now badly in need of funds.

NOT SENTIMENTALISM, SENSE

That is happening to the Preston presidential ticket that happened to Socialism itself, and that Socialism had to combat—the popular impression that it is a sentimental proposition.

It is not opposition but misplaced sympathy that a serious movement has really to combat against. Downright opposition invigorates; misplaced sympathy harms.

The notion, at one time prevalent, that Socialism was a sort of angelically millennial aspiration did much towards shutting the popular ear against it. Man's common sense renders him impatient towards all that is merely sentimental. The millennium is desirable, very desirable, but millennialists are moon-calves, and their sentimentalism is not hearkened. Against this false, though not hostile impression, Socialism had to beat its way. Not until the fact got a footing that Socialism, however objectionable to some, was a matter of hard reasoning, did or could Socialism gain a hearing. From that moment on it progressed.

Railroads raise the rates on manufacturers; manufacturers therupon raise prices; railroads and manufacturers lower wages, directly, and indirectly by higher prices. The one class that can not shift the burden to a lower one is the working class. Here is the choice—either come down to the coolie, or rise to the hero, with the ballot of the Socialist Labor Party blowing the clarion blast of freedom.

The machinery of the banks' organization and of the law are too near-perfection not to get a grip on the fugitive sooner or later." And in the same breath the N. Y. "Commercial" admits that it was only because his company gave out that the absconding banker, W. F. Walker, was captured. Which leads us to remark that it depends upon the size of the pile bagged which decides the question to be or not to be captured.

Thomas L. Hisgen of New Springfield, Mass., is being groomed by the Independence party as its candidate for President. Mr. Hisgen is a competitor of the Standard Oil Company—at least both he and the Octopus find their account in conveying that impression. Mr. Hisgen's slogan during the campaign, as proposed by him, was: "He has given the Standard Oil Company a hot fight for business in the New England States, and screwed the wages of his employees down: whether the Octopus was driven back or not, his wage-slaves were regularly driven down!" This, Hisgen considered, would render him an acceptable candidate to the "conservative element". But the politicians of his party struck out the last twenty-three words of the slogan as impolitic.

Down in Wall Street they are getting up a nice little testimonial to that worthy patriot and social savior J. Pierpont Morgan, in which those signing state that they "desire to place on record their appreciation of the patriotism, the skill, and the liberality manifested by J. Pierpont Morgan, Esquire, in preventing general disaster, and restoring public and private credit, during the recent critical period in the financial history of the United States." When the testimonial shall be handed to Mr. Morgan it will surely require great control of the facial muscles upon the part of the recipient and the donors, to prevent the exchange of knowing winks when they think of how their "patriotism, skill and liberality" were rewarded in millions of dollars that came to them through the Government having put the funds of the national treasury at their disposal to prevent general disaster, etc."

John A. Van Rensselaer has added an interesting contribution to the theory of how to acquire wealth by one's own "directing ability." In the last two years he has "earned," no doubt, by his peculiar "talents," and squandered \$60,000. Now he was intent on acquiring \$5,000 more as a reward for his special services, or he would "blow his mother's head off." Who says that the capitalist doesn't work?

Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Stetson, the millionaire widow of the millionaire Philadelphia hat manufacturer, will henceforth be Countess of Santa Eulalia of Portugal. The lady's action is purely charitable. The Portuguese nobility is just now badly in need of funds.

It is so with Preston's nomination. The circumstance that he is a young man, the circumstance that he is wrongfully imprisoned, the circumstance that his alleged crime consisted in an intrepid stand against a murderous assault—all these circumstances, together with others of kindred import, combine to impart to the act of the Socialist Labor Party, in nominating Preston for President, the aspect of a purely sentimental move.

Nothing was further removed from the mind of the S. L. P. convention than sentimentalism. It was not Preston, the VICTIM, it was Preston the intrepid PICKETMAN that the S. L. P. took and set up. In so doing the S. L. P. took and set a cardinal principle of Socialism and Socialist tactics.

The act of the S. L. P. was a logical sequence of the Party's principles. Without the economic organization of Labor, sufficiently ready to "move in" and seize the reins of rule, the day of the political victory of Socialism would be the day of its defeat. A social

crash would happen out of which something closely akin to Ignatius Donnelly's brutal Caesar would emerge. The economic organization of Labor, the Union, for short, is the embryo of Socialist society. It is the Union, and not the political organization of Labor that is the root which the Co-operative Commonwealth of the future is casting in the soil of capitalist society. It follows that the Union must be the prime thought of the Socialist, especially in a country like America, where nothing but capitalism confronts Socialism. Anything that endangers the Union places Socialism in jeopardy.

In the person of M. R. Preston, imprisoned, the Union is threatened. In the person of M. R. Preston, in prison, aggressive Unionism is represented. No sentimental but sound reason directed the Socialist Labor Party convention in picking out for its presidential standard-bearer the man who, being on picket duty for his Union, was murderously assaulted by the picketed employer, shot him dead, and was "convicted" by a drum-corps jury.

LONDON LETTER

BRITISH PROJECTS TO KEEP THE WORKERS IN SUBJECTION.

The Miners' Eight Hour Bill and the Secret of the Opposition to It—The Daylight Saving Bill Which by Starting the Day Earlier Appears to Give the Worker More Recreation—The Pension Bill Turns Out to Be a Saving Measure for the Capitalists—Unrest in Asia and the Anglo-Russian Alliance.

London, July 14.—The second reading of the Coal Mines Eight Hours (No. 2) Bill has passed in the House of Commons. There was some lively debating over the measure. The trades unionists are saying: "Pass this Bill or we'll strike." The opponents of the Bill hold that the measure should not be passed, that it should not be dragged into politics at all, that it is a matter for negotiation between masters and men.

Mr. F. E. Smith (U., Liverpool, Walton Division), directed rather keen criticism at the Labor party for having considered only the miners in their demands for an eight-hour day. Among his constituents were men who worked ten, twelve and fourteen hours per day—why were not they considered?

Mr. Herbert Samuel, for the Government, made his main argument in support of the Bill that the severity of the labor performed by the miners, the extreme danger of their work, and the great discomfort of spending their working lives underground out of light of day entitled them to preferential treatment. He did not say that what really entitles them to the sop of an eight hour day is the Government fear that it may lose the votes of the mine workers.

There was sharp cross firing over the claim of increased price in coal that would follow should the Bill become law. Mr. Smith shouting that the poor and the unemployed would have to make sacrifices for the benefit of the miner. Sir Charles McLaren, himself a coal owner, championed the Bill, and claimed that he had figured out that the cost which would be involved would be from 2d. to 3d. per ton of coal raised.

Mr. Keir Hardie said that the report before the House showed that at the present time the average working week of the miner was forty-three hours thirteen minutes, which gave an average of seven and a quarter hours per day.

To the man in the street it would seem that under such circumstances there would be little that savors of radicalism in passing the measure. But the fact of the matter is that other than mining interests are most bitterly opposed to the Bill.

Mr. Bonar Law wound up the debate for the Opposition with a vigorous attack on the Bill. Throwing all consistency to the winds, he pointed out that the railwaymen also worked long hours, and if the Government passed a Bill for one trade, why not grant it to all trades which worked long hours? Just the thing he didn't want. Then he wept over the poor workingman having to pay more for his coal and predicted most serious consequences to the iron and steel trade.

Mr. Churchill replied on behalf of the Government. Whatever temporary dis-

advantage might result would soon be more than made up in the general expansion, he argued. The 900,000 colliery population would be notably and sensibly advanced in condition, in respect of their health and industrial efficiency, etc., etc. They had been asked "Why stop here?" But whoever said the Government would stop here?

The Daylight Saving Bill is again up for consideration. When first introduced it was laughed at; now it is taken very seriously indeed. If it passes we are to get up and to work earlier in summer than in winter. The advantages claimed for the scheme are: to promote greater use of daylight for recreative purposes; to lessen the use of licensed houses; to facilitate the training of the Territorial Forces; to benefit the physique, general health and welfare of the community; and lastly, an important consideration: to reduce the industrial, commercial and domestic expenditure on artificial light. In the words of Mr. Churchill: Government is busy trying to reconcile the conditions of labor with the well-ascertained laws of science and health—in other words, busy in devising schemes to keep the capitalist grip upon the workers by projects that are apparently for the welfare of the workers.

Meanwhile Mr. Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in an address to the bankers and merchants of London, warned them that he is pushed for money. On every hand the Government was confronted with dwindling revenues, while the demands upon the Treasury were increasing from day to day. At the same time there was a demand for reduction in taxation. Some wanted the Income Tax reduced; others said: Reduce the Death Duties; others said: Take something off tea and a little off sugar. But somebody had got to be taxed.

The main lines of the Pension Bill are now settled. The expenditure will be about seven millions. The tests are about as severe as those of charity societies, although the scheme is for the purpose of removing the aged poor from the position of a dependent pauper-class. As a matter of fact, the Pension scheme is to reduce the workhouse costs, and in the long run it will come to a practical compulsion on the workers to join some thrift society.

Once in a great while some of our noble Lords show that they know a thing or two, much to the surprise of everybody. Lord Curzon is the latest to show that he has some sagacity, but he surely lacked sagacity when he talked out in school, saying in the House of Lords:

"When we read, the other day, that among the personal property of one of these miserable bomb-throwers who were arrested, there were found 'Mill on Liberty,' we could detect the remote spark that led to the ultimate conflagration."

"The second and very potent cause of unrest is, I believe, the ferment which is going on, in every part of Asia at this moment, and it has been greatly, almost immeasurably, aggravated by the success of Japan over Russia in the last war. This is the first occasion for centuries in which, in an open conflict between East and West, in Asia and Europe, Asia has triumphed. The re-

turns of the British administration.

The disorders in Bombay began two

RHODE ISLAND PUTS UP TICKET.

State Convention Names Herrick for Governor.

Providence, July 24.—The Socialist Labor Party met in State convention last Tuesday and nominated a State ticket. Following are the nominees:

For Governor: THOMAS F. HERRICK;

For Lieutenant-Governor: THOMAS E. O'NEIL;

For Secretary of State: GUS MARTIN;

For Attorney-General: J. C. NORTHRUP;

For State Treasurer: E. S. BOWERS;

For Presidential Electors: PETER McDERMOTT, CHARLES H. DANA, B. J. MURRAY, WOLF SEMONOT.

GRAFT IN CONVICT LABOR.

Public Officials Wax Fat on Hiring Prison Labor.

Atlanta, Ga., July 26.—Mixed with the stories of convicts being whipped to death, which were yesterday told to the legislative committee investigating the Georgia lease system, were stories of State officials using their connection with the lease system to get money.

"Oh, yes," Arnold replied, "we know we shall have to walk. Out of courtesy to Mr. Lovenhart we will take the other side of the street. One side is as good for us as the other. But, Mr. Officer, are these orders you have received from Mr. Lovenhart or from the chief of police?"

The cop answered, "You can consult Mr. Lovenhart, or the chief of police himself as to where my orders came from."

By this time the crowd had grown to twice its former size. Doyle and Ferguson had carried the speaker's platform across the street, and Doyle had remounted and was calling, "All you free-born Americans, come this way."

The interest had increased immensely, and a dense crowd had gathered. The encouraging feature of the situation was that the decided sympathy of the audience was on the Socialists' side.

Doyle and Arnold were the speakers, and they made the most of the fact that even the use of the streets was denied the working class whenever such use might interfere with some exploiter's adding a few dollars more to his private bank account.

One of the speakers observed that, "Were you men in this audience to enter Lovenhart's store with the means in your pockets to buy a suit of clothes, that merchant would extend to you the 'glad hand' and beam on you one of his sweetest smiles. But now, when you may find yourselves with the price of a suit of clothes in your pockets there's no law that will compel you to go to Lovenhart's and buy his shoddy."

That the meeting was successful was evidenced by the fact that 26 books and 12 copies of the Weekly People were sold.

While the harvest is ripe let us all jump in and do our share of the work as militant laborers.

The conditions were never better for effective propaganda than now.

Let us try to realize the responsibility resting on us as the pioneers of a better civilization and strive to measure up to that responsibility.

In the language of our gray-haired comrade, "Let us learn to labor and to wait."

P. C.

COP HELPS MEETING

TRYED TO CHASE SOCIALISTS BUT ONLY INCREASED CROWD.

Workingmen Gathering Around Agitators Make Merchants Sore Whose Trade Suffered—Sympathy of Audience on Side of Speakers—Conditions Excellent for Spread of Propaganda.

(Special Correspondence.)

Louisville, July 19.—Last night, at Third and Market streets, the local Socialist Labor Party held a decidedly successful open-air meeting. The Lovenhart merchants on the corner aided considerably, though they did not mean to. It appears that their possible patrons preferred to stop at the meeting and hear the message of Socialism rather than enter their store. So the Messrs. Merchants appealed to the police to run the Socialists away.

J. Doyle was speaking on the soap box. Presently a patrolman and his corporal hove in sight, strode up to the stand, and, in that imperious manner characteristic of the uniformed servants of the master class, said: "Get a move on." He claimed he had orders to make the speakers find another location. J. H. Arnold here spoke up and asked the audience not to block the sidewalk. The copper answered, "Never mind, are you fellows going to move?"

"Oh, yes," Arnold replied, "we know we shall have to walk. Out of courtesy to Mr. Lovenhart we will take the other side of the street. One side is as good for us as the other. But, Mr. Officer, are these orders you have received from Mr. Lovenhart or from the chief of police?"

The cop answered, "You can consult Mr. Lovenhart, or the chief of police himself as to where my orders came from."

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POSITION OF THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

ON THE QUESTION OF ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION OF LABOR

Adopted by Order of National Convention in July, 1908.

The Socialist Labor Party is organized by members of the working class as the political instrument for securing what improvements of its condition may be possible under the present capitalist system, and for preaching and preparing the coming revolution, which will entirely free the working class from robbery and slavery of the wage system. It aims to accomplish this by transforming all means of production and distribution into the collective property of the people, thus abolishing the capitalist class, and making the working class the only class in society.

It knows from history that a class of the oppressed was never able to overthrow its oppressors till it secured economic power to predominance by securing ownership and control over the wealth-producing property of the country. Thus the Third Estate in France, the forefathers of the modern French capitalist class, became strong enough to overthrow its oppressors, the nobility and clergy, only towards the end of the 18th century, when it became, although politically still disinherited, economically the most wealthy and powerful class in France.

The modern proletariat or working class is the first class in history which has to perform for human progress a seemingly impossible task. With bare hands, as it were, stripped as it is of all property, or of any chance to acquire property, if it wants to secure for itself and its descendants a chance to live and enjoy the fruits of modern civilization it will have to overthrow its oppressor, the capitalist class, entrenched as the latter stands behind practically all the property of the country.

Still this seeming miracle can and will be performed not only because in our age, and especially in this country, the working class is numerically stronger than all the other classes combined; not only because it is now the only indispensable class in society—the only class whose physical and mental labor supports and carries on all industries, and the withdrawal of whose labor has the effect of paralyzing every industry—but because the modern capitalist class, in organizing the industries of the land, has placed them directly into the hands of the working class, so that the proletariat actually holds in its hands the necessities of labor and the means of its own emancipation.

It is this fact that makes of the modern working class the economically more powerful and controlling class in society, and the superior of the capitalist class in spite of all the wealth concentrated in the possession of the latter. All that is needed in order to enable the workers to assert and make proper use of the power in their hands is to combine all their political power and efforts into one political party of their class on a platform demanding the complete surrender of the capitalist class, and to back up such a party by an economic organization, in which all workers—from highest to the lowest paid—engaged in any industry shall be welded into one union which, while composed of separate branches for separate subdivisions of the industry, shall be in position, whenever needed, to set in motion against the common enemy—the employers—the entire working force of the affected industry, acting as harmoniously as a regiment in battle, and combining all other industrial unions into one army of industrially organized labor.

Only an organization so constructed, and imbued and guided by the spirit of modern revolutionary Socialism, and of universal brotherhood and solidarity of the working class, can resist the further encroachments of the capitalists. It can do so even though capital be concentrated in the modern powerful Trusts, and be protected by all the forces of government. Moreover, only such an economic organization of labor is able to secure temporary and partial improvements in the condition of the working class until the hour of its final and complete emancipation from wage slavery. On the day when a sufficiently large part of the working class will be organized into such an industrial army it will be in position to play the part of an army of occupation, and thus, under the protecting fire of the public powers captured by the force of their ballots and numbers, consummate the modern Social Revolution by dispossessing the capitalist class and restoring to the people, in their collective capacity, all the means of production and distribution, representing as these do partly a common gift of nature to the whole human family—the land—and partly the stored up collective product of the energies and inventive genius of the working class of this and past generations—the capital.

But in a country like ours such a revolutionary industrial army of the working class cannot be organized without at the same time exhausting all possible efforts to secure the dispossession of the capitalist class by means of civilized warfare—political agitation and political action of the working class through its own class party. Without such a party the revolutionary industrial army of labor, instead of representing the power which must be ready in reserve to secure the fruit of the political victory of the working class, would represent only the physical force method of warfare, dependent as such pure and simple industrialism is upon the anarchistic weapon of "direct action," and bound, as it is, to degenerate into conspiracies, dynamitism and the accompanying phenomena of police spy and agent provocateur activities, with all the discredit, failures and disasters for the working class implied in such activities. The struggle of Marx and Engels for political action and against Bakounin's exclusively physical force tactics under the auspices of the old "International Association of Workingmen" glaringly illustrates this principle.

On the other hand, not only the Socialist Labor Party—the vanguard of the Socialist Movement in America—but all Socialists of the world, as they expressed it in the trades union resolution of the International Socialist Congress held in August, 1907, at Stuttgart, Germany, where 25 countries were represented, maintain that a political party of Socialism cannot secure the complete emancipation of the working class from wage slavery without an economic organization of labor, built up and conducted on the principles of the class struggle, and guided by the spirit of working class solidarity.

That resolution declares—and nobody at that congress (not even the delegates of the Socialist Party of America) construed it as an "attempt to unduly interfere with or dictate to the unions—that the "labor unions, which are built on the theory of harmony and identity of interests of capital and labor, which are devoted only to the interests of their craft and are guided by the narrow, selfish spirit of the ancient guilds, are reduced to impotence by development of the capitalist system of production, by the increased concentration of the means of production, the growing combination of employers and the increasing dependence of different crafts upon each other." And we in America—the land where this capitalist development has outstripped all other countries, and where this type of craft unionism has reached its full bloom in the shape of the American Federation of Labor—know that such an organization of labor, considered as a whole, is not only "reduced to impotence," but degenerates and is transformed into a handmaid of great capitalists, assisting them in their efforts to crush their weaker rivals, and plays the part of breastworks and lightning rods, protecting the capitalist class and its system of wage slavery from destruction.

At present the bulk of the working class is not organized at all, a small part of it is disorganized and disrupted under the banner of the American Federation of Labor, and only a still smaller part, instead of the bulk of it, is organized into proper class unions. The Socialist Labor Party maintains that, so long as this is the situation, a political party of Socialism, which endeavors only to advance the movement on political lines and is guided in its relation to labor unions not by the recognition of the fact that, without powerful class-unions no emancipation of the working class is possible, but only by the expectation to secure from the existing anti-Socialist unions occasional members, voters and financial support for its own political organization and its press, is doomed to failure and defeat at every turn on its way to the goal:

In the first place, without a revolutionary industrial organization of labor acting as a support, the political party of Socialism, in the measure that it grows, is bound to fall a prey to the demoralizing and corrupting effect of politicians, broken-down ministers, office-seekers and vain and ignorant would-be leaders attracted to such a party, and finally land in the mire of social reform and "practical politics."

Further, without a revolutionary industrial organization of labor, embracing the bulk of the working class, the hope of the political party of Socialism to ever succeed in marshalling to the polls the necessary millions of Socialist voters is doomed to remain visionary—a utopian dream. No responsible representative of Socialism in any country will nowadays consider for a moment such a possibility. Even to get the necessary millions of Socialist votes—if for no previously developed, well organized rev-

olutionary industrial army of labor embracing at least a large section of the working class, as it were to claim that feudalism could be abolished before the rising capitalist class could have acquired and developed sufficient economic strength, or that Socialism could be substituted for capitalism before the latter created the class of proletarians and the material conditions necessary as the basis of Socialism. The "expropriation of expropriators" and the reorganization of the present social order into a Workers' Republic can be assisted by the powers of state in the hands of Socialists, but can only be accomplished by the industrially organized proletariat.

Again, without a revolutionary industrial organization of labor, if, through miracle or accident such millions of Socialist voters should really ever march to the polls, the representatives of the capitalists, in possession of the election machinery and offices, can be depended upon to count out the Socialist candidates, as amply shown by various experiences in political life of the country.

To expect that in such a case redress can be secured from courts, manned and controlled as they are by the guardians of capitalist interests, is as visionary as to expect that the voting constituency of such a party—scattered, unprepared, and in its bulk entirely disorganized and impersonal as such voting constituency is—can be depended upon to supply the physical force necessary to prevent or offset such a crime on the part of capitalist officials. Such force can be supplied only by a revolutionary industrial organization of labor, built up and drilled in advance and ready to lay its hands on the machinery of production as soon as capitalist officials commit fraud with election returns.

The same applies to the actual transfer of powers of the state to the duly elected representatives of the working class. The political party can secure for the Cause of Revolution only the moral support of the population. But if the moral endorsement and support expressed through the ballot box by a practically unorganized constituency, scattered over the face of a country and unprepared to bring powerful economic pressure to bear, were sufficient to ensure the actual transfer of the powers of state to the revolutionary representatives of a people, then there would have been no Czar in Russia at present. For, in spite of all gerrymandering and of the most atrocious persecutions of all the enemies of the Czar's government by the police, the majority of the First and Second Duma in Russia were enemies of the government. The peculiar position of the Russian government at that time compelled it to actually seat them. But the Russian working class was not industrially sufficiently organized, the opposition, although in possession of the moral support of the people, was not in position to exercise strong economic pressure, and a stroke of the pen of the Czar sufficed to scatter the two first Dumas to the winds, and to put the leading men of the opposition camp behind the bars and in convicts' chains.

Here is a workingman who, to assist his union in a boycott of a restaurant where the employed girls were striking, and in the exercise of his legal right, posted himself as a picket near the restaurant. His work is effective and the enraged proprietor attacks him with a murderous weapon—a gun—in hand. In defense of his life, as it was proved at the trial, Preston shoots and kills the would-be assassin.

If picketing itself, which brought Preston to the restaurant, is a rightful, legal act—as the Socialist Labor Party maintains it is—then Preston was within his rights in shooting the murderous assailant and should have been acquitted. If picketing itself were a crime then the shooting, even in self-defense, by Preston, would have constituted a crime and it would have been legal to convict such a defendant of murder. The capitalist court and authorities were quick to perceive the opportunity and, aiming not at Preston, but at the right of a labor union to picket the employer's premises, packed the jury with perfidious Pinkerton detectives, notorious bank-robbers, etc., convicted Preston and sentenced him to twenty-five years in state prison!

It is to expose and defeat this attack and attempt to destroy one of the most valuable weapons in the arsenal of the working class—without which weapon the union might as well disband—that the Socialist Labor Party, in raising its banner of revolt against the capitalist system, selected Preston for the head of its Presidential ticket in this campaign of 1908. The campaign under the name of Preston is not only a campaign to liberate a victim of capitalist class rule, but especially a campaign to preserve the integrity of the workers' arsenal, the integrity of the union.

Without revolutionary industrial unionism, as without revolutionary ballot, there is no united action of the working class on industrial or political field, consequently no victory, no freedom from wage slavery!

A VALUABLE DOCUMENT.

To comrades who keep a file of the documents issued by the Party we would announce that a few spare copies of the S. L. P. Report to the International Socialist Congress, Stuttgart, neatly printed and bound, may be had for 25 cents each.

New York Labor News Co.,
28 City Hall Place,
New York.

PHILANTHROPY GAME

METROPOLITAN COMPANY GETS WORKERS FUNDS.

President Vreeland of Conductors and Motormen's Beneficial Association invests Surplus in Metropolitan Securities—Big Shrinkage in Values Causes Bonds to Be Sold at Sacrifice.

Four thousand employees of the Metropolitan Street Railway Co. of New York received an unpleasant shock when they learned that the cash of their beneficial association had been used by President Vreeland in the investment of Metropolitan securities which subsequently had to be sold at greatly depreciated prices. As a consequence of this the assets of the order have fallen to the amount of thousands of dollars.

To all its friends—to those in the industrial unions as well as to those of them who are compelled by considerations of a job and livelihood to belong against their will to the short-sighted, selfish craft unions, imbued with capitalist ideas, like those of the American Federation of Labor and kindred organizations—the Socialist Labor Party again proclaims:

"Whether you belong against your will to an A. F. of L. craft union, or are fortunate to belong to a class-conscious industrial union, remember that whenever your fellow-workers and shopmates are engaged in a bona-fide strike or other struggle for improved conditions of labor, it is your duty to fight in their ranks, no matter by what organization the struggle was inaugurated. But remember also, that whether you are within a craft union or outside, it is your right and your supreme duty to expose the fallacies and wrongs of craft unionism and to work with might and main for class-conscious industrial unionism, whenever the slightest opportunity presents itself."

The position of the Socialist Labor Party is strikingly and fittingly illustrated by the nomination of M. R. Preston as candidate of the Party for President of United States in this campaign of 1908.

Here is a workingman who, to assist his union in a boycott of a restaurant where the employed girls were striking, and in the exercise of his legal right, posted himself as a picket near the restaurant. His work is effective and the enraged proprietor attacks him with a murderous weapon—a gun—in hand. In defense of his life, as it was proved at the trial, Preston shoots and kills the would-be assassin.

Root admitted there had been depreciation and loss to the association. He declined positively, however, to criticize Vreeland and the others who had invested the association's money in Metropolitan securities and kept it there when the receivership was imminent.

The organization is composed chiefly of foremen, inspectors, motormen and conductors of the Metropolitan Railway and its allied lines. They pay part of their meager earnings into the association each month to provide for themselves funds in event of illness or injury and for their families money in event of death from illness or accident. The last annual report showed that the association had 4,774 members. The Metropolitan Street Railway Association has not gone into the hands of receivers, however, and neither has it ceased to pay benefit for illness, injury or death. It is entirely independent of the railway companies themselves, although it has offices and recreation rooms, rent free, in the Metropolitan car barn at Fifth Avenue and Seventh Avenue. The association has suffered loss simply because those who engineered its investments put its surplus cash into Metropolitan Railway securities and kept it there even when the surface railway system under the Ryan-Vreeland management was tottering.

H. Vreeland is spending the summer in his country home near Brewster. He was communicated with by telephone, informed of the stories current and asked what he had to say about them.

"I don't know anything about them," the former president of the Metropolitan said.

"You were president of the association, were you not?"

"Yes," he admitted.

"Then who will know about the investments if you do not?" he was asked.

Instead of replying he hung up the receiver and declined to return to the telephone again, a Brewster telephone operator said.

The last annual report of the association was made last October, when it held its eleventh anniversary meeting in Carnegie Hall. Vreeland then was

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This showed that money belonging to the men had been invested in the securities of railways which even then were in the hands of receivers.

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THE IMMIGRATION QUESTION

A CRITICISM OF THE POSITION OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY. BY J. ROSENSTEIN.

In order to determine what stand a Socialist party should take in regard to the exclusion of Asiatic races, the question should be considered under the following heads:

(1) Will such a measure improve the condition of the working class?

(2) Is the measure in consonance with the fundamental principles of Socialism?

(3) Which will be the effects of the measure if enacted into law?

Let us see then how the question will shape itself under these different aspects.

(1) The present condition of the working class is entirely dependent on and conditioned by the stage which the capitalist system has reached in its evolution and as this system steadily advances by increasing the productiveness of labor and thereby increasing the rate of surplus value, so the condition of the working class is continually growing more miserable and more wretched. The exclusion of Asiatics from this country can not stay this movement for one single instant; let alone improving the condition of the working class. At the best it can only have a negative effect of doubtful quantity as regards the workers already in the country but the opposite is true as regards the immigrants themselves. Furthermore, so long as there are thousands of idle workers all over this country every additional worker who lands on these shores, irrespective of race, color or sex, or whether he be organizable or not, will increase the existing misery, and this is due only to the capitalist system, and not to the fact that he may be an Asiatic.

But while some of us advocate the exclusion of workers, never a single voice has been raised against the immigration of capitalists; quite to the contrary they are most carefully exempted from all existing and contemplated exclusion laws. And why, may I ask, are we careless of increasing the number of our exploiters? Have we abandoned then our fight against capitalism and have we now turned to fighting the working class? Is it that at last we have discovered that it is some of the workers who cause the poverty of others, that the unemployed is poor because someone else is working? Oh, ye shades of Karl Marx!

Where, oh where are we drifting? You, the advocates of exclusion, are misleading the people as to the true nature of their "material interest and economic necessities." These can never be served by any action taken against workers but only by such as will tend towards the final abolition of capitalism and the establishment of the co-operative common wealth. That no Socialist party is to-day in power is due solely to the fact that the majority of the people do not recognize their true "material interest and economic necessities"; in short, that the majority is as yet not class-conscious.

You, instead of pointing the straight road to our final goal, confound the issues and advocate measures against the working class while you should be busy advocating measures against capitalism. And why? For fear that you might incur the displeasure of some organization outside of the Socialist party, an organization which still speaks of the identity of interests of capital and labor and which has not the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth at heart. But, however all this may be, exclusion once admitted in principle, there can be only one consequential course open for the Socialist party to pursue, namely, to advocate the erection of a Chinese wall and to prohibit all immigration.

(2) As to fundamental principles: the document to turn to for our guidance is the "Declaration of Principles," written by Karl Marx and issued by the "International," founded at London September 28th, 1864, the very document which since has formed the basis for all Socialist platforms the world over and the following passages are extracts from it:

"All exertions which up to this time have been directed toward the attainment of this end (the economic emancipation of the working class) have failed on account of the want of solidarity between the various branches of labor in every land and by reason of the absence of a brotherly bond of unity between the working class of different countries."

You may call this idealism and you may sneer; the Socialist party has waxed fat on sneers about idealism, but it hits hard just the same when they issue from its own camp. No! This is not idealism—this is immensely practical. The capitalist class to-day forms one solid unit all over this earth and they do not exclude their

own for fear their unity might suffer, and to face this power a Socialist party must consider it one of its most important tasks to unify and solidify the workers of all countries, because it should hold with Karl Marx that without this the emancipation of the working-class cannot be accomplished. And what are we in America doing to further this brotherly bond of unity? We are excluding from our shores the workers of Asia. Does anyone believe that the workers of Japan or China have any reason to set faith in the brotherly love of those who deny to them the right which they freely grant to others?

But let me quote further:

"The first International Labor Congress declares that the International Workingmen's Association and all societies and individuals belonging to it, recognize truth, right and morality as the basis of their conduct toward one another of their fellow men, without respect to color, creed or nationality. This Congress regards it as the duty of man to demand the rights of a man and citizen, not only for himself, but for everyone who does his duty. No rights without duties; no duties without rights."

The words speak for themselves and comment could only detract from their force and beauty.

The advocates of exclusion laws are clearly subverting every fundamental principle laid down for the guidance of the party in this document. And these principles are nothing more nor less than an amplification of that all-embracing, most powerful of proverbs: "Don't do unto others as you would not be done by yourself."

Japan finds herself to-day in the unenviable position of being confronted with the argument that she should not resent for herself that which she is doing unto others. Thousands of American workers are to-day emigrating into Canada. Would we suffer to be excluded? Would we submit to that humiliating examination as to whether we are capitalists or proletarians, only to be turned back if we do not belong to the select few? If you, the advocates of exclusion, could feel the indignity and shame of this you would have small patience indeed for the race-hatred that has no other foundation than that a man is doing his duty as a man; that he is working.

(3) What will be the result of exclusion laws? Anyone who has eyes to see and ears to hear will know that China to-day is straining every nerve to prepare herself to shake off an obnoxious exclusion law; and if a like law will be enacted against Japan, war will be threatened forthwith. And if this law shall have been enacted with the aid and at the instance of the Socialist party, that party will stand irrevocably committed to grant to the capitalist class every demand for the increase of the army and of the navy to their hearts content, and the Socialist party must forge with its own hand the weapon that will smite it.

If all my other arguments were meaningless and false, this single one should be sufficient to point the only logical course for the Socialist party to pursue, and that is: to take a firm stand against all exclusion laws and to demand the rights of a man and citizen for everyone who does his duty.

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SERVITUDE OF INTELLECTUALS

It is not in the circle of the intellectuals, degraded by centuries of capitalist oppression, that we must seek examples of civic courage and moral dignity. They have not even the sense of professional class-consciousness. At the time of the Dreyfus affair, a certain minister discharged, as if he had been a mere prison guard, one of the professors of chemistry in the Polytechnic school who had had the rare courage to give public expression to his opinion. When in a factory the employer dismisses a workman in too arbitrary fashion, his comrades grumble, and sometimes quit work, even though misery and hunger await them in the street.

All his colleagues in the Polytechnic school bowed their heads in silence; each one crouched in self-regarding fear, and what is still more characteristic, not a single partisan of Dreyfus or in the Society of the Rights of Man or in the ranks of the press raised a voice to remind them of the idea of professional solidarity. The intellectuals who on all occasions display their transcendental ethics, have still a long road to travel before they reach the moral plane of the working class and of the socialist party.

The scientists have not only sold themselves to the governments and financiers; they have also sold science itself to the capitalistic bourgeoisie. When in the eighteenth century there was need to prepare the minds of men for the Revolution by sapping the ideological foundations of aristocratic society, then science fulfilled its sublime mission of freedom; it was revolutionary; it furiously attacked Christianity and the intuitive philosophy. But when the victorious bourgeoisie decided to base its new power on religion, it commanded its scientists, its philosophers and its men of letters to raise up what they had overthrown; they responded to the need with enthusiasm. They reconstructed what they had demolished; they proved by scientific, sentimental and romantic argument the existence of God the father, of Jesus the son and of Mary the virgin mother. I do not believe history offers a spectacle equal to that presented in the first years of the nineteenth century by the philosophers, the scientists and the literary men, who from revolutionaries and materialists suddenly transformed themselves into reactionaries, intuitionists, and Catholics.

This backward movement still continues; when Darwin published his "Origin of Species," which took away from God his role of creator in the organic world, as Franklin had despoiled him of his thunderbolt, we saw the scientists, big and little, university pro-

fessors and members of the Institute, enrolling themselves under the orders of Flourens, who for his own part had at least his eighty years for an excuse, that they might demolish the Darwinian theory, which was displeasing to the government and hurtful to religious beliefs. The intellectuals exhibited that painful spectacle in the fatherland of Lamark and of Geoffrey Saint-Hilaire, the creators of the evolution theory, which Darwin completed and defended against criticism.

To-day, now that the clerical anxiety is somewhat appeased, the scientists venture to profess the evolution theory, which they never opposed without a protest from their scientific conscience, but they turn it against socialism so as to keep in the good graces of the capitalists. Herbert Spencer, Haeckel, and the greatest men in the school of Darwinism demonstrate that the classification of individuals into rich and poor, idlers and laborers, capitalists and wage-earners, is the necessary result of the inevitable laws of nature, instead of being the fulfillment of the will and the justice of God. Natural selection, they say, which has differentiated the organs of the human body, has forever fixed the rank and the functions of the social body. They have, through servility, even lost the logical spirit. They are indignant against Aristotle because, being unable to conceive of the abolition of slavery, declared that the slave was marked off by nature; but they fail to see that they are saying something equally monstrous when they affirm that natural selection assigns to each one his place in society.

Thus it is no longer God or religion which condemns the workers to wretchedness—it is science. Never was there an intellectual bankruptcy more fraudulent. Some of the later applicants for aid are men who previously had not been out of work in ten or fifteen years, and it was not until after January or February that their families began to feel the pinch, and not until now that they actually suffered.

M. Brunetiere, one of those intellectuals who do not feel their degradation and who joyfully fulfil their servile task, was right when he proclaimed the failure of science. He does not suspect how colossal this bankruptcy is.

Science, the great emancipator, which has tamed the powers of nature, and might in so doing have freed man from toil so that he could develop freely his faculties of mind and body; science, become the slave of capital, has done nothing but supply means for capitalists to increase their wealth, and to intensify their exploitation of the working class. Its most wonderful applications to industrial technique have brought to the children, the women and the men of the working class nothing but overwork and misery!"—*Socialism and the Intellectuals*, by PAUL LAFARGUE.

APPLICATIONS FOR RELIEF INCREASE

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS FAR FROM BEING NORMAL.

It is not the repeaters but the twenty or thirty new families a day which now harrow up the feelings of some of the officers of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

Mrs. Ingram, superintendent of relief, when seen said that the association received in June of this year nearly three times as many applications for relief as in June, 1907, and that the comparison between July, 1907, and July, 1908, would be about the same.

To meet this increase even partially the association has been obliged to draw heavily on its reserve fund, heretofore dedicated solely to contingencies

luxury class and mostly ornamental is not making much headway as yet. Piano workers—hosts of them—have been forced to the edge of destitution for the reason that whole buildings at one time given over to the manufacture of pianos have been as quiet as a church for months. Pianos are bulky things to store, one manufacturer reminded me, and neither he nor his competitors felt like loading up with them since the demand for pianos took a decided drop. Makers of fine cabinets are in the same fix.

"All this is an old story of which the public is more or less tired; but it is curious that so few persons, comparatively, realize that in some quarters the suffering from these conditions is now greater than ever before. 'Times are better,' the average person says and settles back comfortably as if the question was closed and the need of aid associations and generous money contributions a thing of the past. It takes a lot of explaining to make some good people understand how longshoremen and workers of that sort can be affected by the depressed industrial conditions, because they say that a longshoreman's work needs always to be done and is always demanded. So it is but nearly to an extent to match the number of applicants for the work. This number is at present more than double what is ordinarily.

"Even in an emergency a longshoreman can't work at making pianos. It doesn't occur to him to apply for that sort of work. A piano maker, on the other hand, can and will in an emergency ask for a longshoreman's job, and he will stand a good chance of getting it too, if he is brawny enough. For that reason for every twenty longshoremen wanted there are fifty or more men who want the job. And the same conditions prevail in other of the humbler occupations.

"I find few persons who appreciate that in the commonplace field of house-cleaning hundreds of women formerly employed by the day failed this year to get even one day's work. Woman after woman has told me: 'My customer says she is going to do the housecleaning herself this year, that she can't afford to hire it done.'

"It is the same with laundry work. Some women have cut down on the quantity of lingerie they wear. Others instead of sending out all their laundry have economized by hiring a woman to come to the house and do the work, with the result that women who formerly earned anywhere from \$2 to \$5 a week at home by taking in washing now find their revenue from this source cut in two or cut out altogether.

"No, our experience tells me that to the contrary, there is not among certain classes of workmen a noticeable decrease in the number of idle men. Seldom since January have we had fewer than 600 men out of work represented in the families we have helped, and the majority of these are married men.

"The opening of the summer resorts provides some extra work, but the men who get these jobs are mostly unmarried.

"Things are very slow in the building trades, which now employ dozens where one year ago they employed thousands, and until after the election there will not be much change, I am told. The number of painters out of a job is phenomenal, the reason given being that owners of private houses are chary just yet about spending money for repairs.

"Laborers and porters and waiters and the kind of man who says, 'I ain't got no trade; I'll do anything, lady,' are not much better off now than they were three months ago or before the factories started up. Jewellers' helpers, among the first to feel the hard times, are not yet getting work fast. The manufacture of anything in the

last Friday she gave out enough provisions to tide most of them over Sunday, but here it is Tuesday again and cupboards are empty and wage earners, I suppose, still idle. These families are not of the repeating order at all. They are new cases, and of a class which seldom or never asks for charity."—N. Y. Sun.

The latter hope is certain to disappoint; and if it were realized might not be worth the strain—for under these conditions learning is a strain, it ceases to give pleasure, it is not self-development, but is instead a fevered striving for individual material benefit at the expense of individuality.

So in our workshops. How mechanical, monotonous and wearing the routine becomes when one has to attend to the same small duty throughout the whole working day. Unremitting attention to a machine—the real worker—has reduced the mill hand to a mere adjunct of machinery. There can be no sort of pretence that for the masses of the people modern factory life, or clerical work, makes for a strengthening and development of individuality in the worker.

Dogmatism in religion and social custom also discourage individuality in thought and conduct. From our beliefs to our wearing apparel we are slaves to.

Monotony in education, in religion, in life, is the outcome of individualism, and will disappear only with the achievement of Socialism and the consequent development of individuality.

We require that every several man shall have what is now denied him—a full and free development of the body and mind he is born with, shall be alert and active in both, stunted neither physically nor mentally. We aspire to no dead level, which, were it possible, would efface all picturesqueness from life. We ask equality of opportunity for all, because we want each and every man and woman to be in the true sense an individual.—From *Darwinism and Socialism*, by LAURENCE SMALL.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

SOCIALISM AND INDIVIDUALISM

If Socialism stands for one thing more than another it stands for individuality. We seek no reduction to a uniform level of physical measurement, of height, chest capacity, or muscular vigor; we do not expect that all our intellectual powers shall be of the same order in kind or in degree; that our education shall be along the same lines; that our various opinions and beliefs must be forced into concurrence.

That is and has been the outcome of individualism. To all appearance it has been the aim, as expressed by our codes of education for elementary schools, to instruct all pupils in exactly the same subjects and to the same extent; to drill them into one style of writing, of reading, and of doing a few sums, entirely irrespective of the aptitudes of the individual children themselves. Instead of education we had instruction; training gave place to dogmatism.

Children under our individualistic system have been treated as if they had no individuality whatever. It was implied in our educational scheme that what one child can do all children can do. The child-mind was regarded as a blank sheet of paper on which might be inscribed whatever one pleased.

Your individualistic state sets about

declaring what all children should be,

and sets about making them so—to its discomfiture.

Elementary education has been a failure until now, perhaps, when examination for grants have been abolished and freedom of choice in subject and method has been allowed to the teacher.

But even now classes of pupils num-

bering 60 to 80 are taught *en masse*; a class of 50, is regarded as a small one.

What possible individuality can be encouraged and developed in any child by even the most capable and sympathetic teacher?

In our science and technical evening schools we have courses of instruction on the same lines. Ill prepared in the day schools, the pupils are unable to derive the full benefit of their opportunities. They have not learned to be students. Their day school teachers have supplied both mind and text book with the result that when a book of study is put into the hands of the average evening student he does not know how to use it.

The evening pupils are handicapped, too, in coming to their study tired in mind and body after a full day's work.

These facts are slowly being recognized by educational authorities, and there are signs of improvement.

All this, however, is not the gravest thing that can be said about the matter.

The painful fact is that the aim of education has been forgotten, and that the whole purpose of our schools appears to be the creation of more efficient tools for the workshop and the office. There

is the hope in the student that his technical knowledge will be of advantage in competition for employment or for promotion, and that his wages will be greater.

The latter hope is certain to disappoint; and if it were realized might not be worth the strain—for under these conditions learning is a strain, it ceases to give pleasure, it is not self-development, but is instead a fevered striving for individual material benefit at the expense of individuality.

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All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th Ave., St. Paul, Minn.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1908.



SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

PRESIDENTIAL TICKET.

For President:

MARTIN R. PRESTON,

Miner, now wrongfully in a Nevada jail
for being true to his class.

For Vice-President:

DONALD L. MUNRO,

Machinist, Virginia.

You hurry by—what errands call?
Service to heart, or head, or purse?
Shed you a freeman's boon on all,
Or shape a subtler curse?
We numbered but a little clan
Beside your million-teeming press,
Yet wrought the general good of man—
Woe be your meed if you do less.
—WM. ROSCOE THAYER.

(On a portrait of Hancock in the Old Boston State House.)

CALL YE NOT THIS ALSO A CAUSE?

A hundred and thirty years ago there was fought out on this soil a conflict which gave a nation freedom from foreign despotism. Down the ages, as long as history is read or written, the fame of that struggle will go ringing. Its renown is nobly merited. Yet strange to say, it is often the loudest declaimers of the glories of Revolutionary days who are strongest arrayed against the oncoming conflict, that which will establish Socialism on the ruins of competitive production, the same as its predecessor a century and a quarter ago established American independence on the ruins of feudal sovereignty.

"What?" the argument runs. "What is there to fight for now? We are independent, no one oppresses us, the foreign tyrant is no more, and every man can hew out his own fortune. A revolution in '76 was necessary and right; now it would be unnecessary and all wrong."

Would it, though? A comparison of the issues involved then and now may help to answer the question.

In the first place, are we free and independent? The foreign oppressor, in the meaning of King George's time, is gone, it is true. But on our own shores, within our own family, as it were, has grown up a despotism a hundred times more rigorous than ever the Georges tried to wield. Abstract rights, in the statute books, we have. But within those same liberal statutes, designed to overthrow political domination, has grown up an economic oppression, not contemplated by or guarded against by those statutes, which swings its mighty sceptre with greater weight than ever the subjects of the Georges felt.

To illustrate: The Georges tried to restrict American manufacturing to certain articles, and then only on condition of certain payments for the right. To-day, the capitalist owner of the tools restricts the right to manufacture of millions of workers, allowing them to produce only if they give him five-fifths of their product as his profits.

The Georges tried to exact a trifling tax on tea, window-glass, and a few other commodities. To-day, by the monopolizing of industry, the masters

of economic power can fleece the people again as consumers, piling on the price to the breaking point—witness just now the Beef Trust, the Ice Trust, and the Consolidated Gas Co.

The Georges reigned over a scattering million of people. Even had the Hanoverian tyranny gone its furthest, the virgin forest, rich with opportunity, lay behind the settlers. They could have moved back, developed and become prosperous in spite of the hand across the water. To-day, the lords of creation, the Iron Kings, Sugar Kings, the Railroad Kings and their tribe, reign in fact over a populace of eighty full million, and growing yearly; to whom, moreover, all natural opportunity has long since been cut off.

The Georges exercised their tyranny over a narrow strip of land along the Atlantic coast. Their descendants, the barons of American production, carry things with a high hand over a domain that reaches from ocean to ocean, from the Gulf to the Great Lakes, and is now being pushed Asia-ward, across the Pacific islands and the Philippines. In the words of England's boast, they can say "We hold a greater Empire than has been."

Can one declare, then, that whereas a Revolution to overthrow the stuffy old drones of the German hive was legitimate, a Revolution to-day, to overthrow the home-bred article, is impious? In the light of their greater power, extending even to the life and death of our people, as is seen now in the times of the panic; in the light of the greater territorial expanse of their dominion; in the light of every comparison that can be drawn between the self-reliant, self-sufficient status of the Americans in '76 and the helpless, ground-down condition of the populations in 1908, one can not but agree that if the Revolution which gave us political freedom were justified, that which will give us economic freedom is doubly so. If the war of '76 was fought for a cause, call ye not this also a Cause?

A "SQUARE DEAL."

From two camps in the land skyrockets of distress are signalling to the Government for help.

One of the two camps consists of smaller property-holders who are crowded by bigger ones; the other camp consists of property-less wage-slaves who are ground down by the whole property-holding class, and as yet know no better than to "cry for help."

With a "Square Deal" on its lips the Republican platform, unanimously adopted at Chicago by Rooseveltites and Allies alike, declares that it commends "the appropriation by the present Congress to enable the Interstate Commerce Commission to thoroughly investigate, and give publicity to, the accounts of interstate railroads." This is the deal to the goods-manufacturing and shipping property-holders.

With the identical "Square Deal" on its identical lips, the identical Republicans can convention adopted, with identical unanimity, a declaration approving the appropriation of \$150,000 at the recent session of Congress in order to secure a thorough inquiry into the causes of catastrophes and loss of life in the mines. This is the deal to the property-less.

The picture is not yet complete. The amount appropriated for a "thorough inquiry" into the constant mine catastrophes is given—\$150,000. The amount is ridiculously insufficient for the magnitude of the work. But things are big or small in comparison with others. What was the appropriation made for the much easier inquiry into railroad accidents? If so niggardly an appropriation as \$150,000 is made for a "thorough inquiry" into the multiple mine disasters, the "Square Deal" would manifest itself in a proportionately smaller appropriation for the inquiry into railroad accidents.

The first thing to call attention is the silence of the platform, as adopted, upon this particular appropriation. The silence bulges into significance when the platform, as adopted, is compared with the original draft. The original draft cautiously mentioned the figures. The platform, as adopted, cautiously struck out the figures. They were \$350,000—more than double the amount appropriated for investigating mine disasters!

For the easy work of examining the books of the railroads at their head offices a fat, an effective appropriation is made by the "Square Deal". For the laborious work of inspecting the hundreds and thousands of mines spread over an area of fully one-third of the land the "Square Deal" makes not only a smaller, but so utterly inadequate an appropriation that it clearly is, not an appropriation to investigate and redress wrongs, but an appropriation to furnish junketing "investigation" committees the funds for a jolly good time.

The Georges tried to exact a trifling tax on tea, window-glass, and a few other commodities. To-day, by the monopolizing of industry, the masters

of capital, kicks for Labor.

The capitalist, "Square Deal," administered by the carefully framed Republican platform, is a loud announcement to the miners, and through them, to the rest of the working class whose members are daily slaughtered and injured by the scores and the hundreds in factories, mills, mines, on the railroads and on all the other fields of industry:

"Your sufferings and your sorrows are, like your toll, but sources of profit to us. You toll in poverty that we may riot in luxury. Your deaths and hurts from the catastrophes that befall you are but welcome pretexts for us to raise funds upon which to feast some more. That is your place and mission in the scheme of capitalist Square Deal. Shout with joy that such a privilege is yours. If not—injunctions!—or worse yet, imprisonment for 'murder' if you dare defend your lives as in Preston's instance!"

TOPSY-TURVY PROHIBITIONISM.

The Prohibition party, in national convention assembled, has again flown to the wind its standard, which heralds, in condensed form, the economic principle(!) that liquor is the cause of involuntary poverty, and that, consequently, in order to abolish involuntary poverty, "the manufacture, sale, importation, exportation or transportation of alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes" shall be prohibited.

That many a Prohibitionist actually believes in this bizarre doctrine is undeniable. It is undeniable that, to these, the fact of drunkenness among capitalists who remain rich is a problem of no significance. The fact that, if liquor were the cause of poverty, the capitalist class, which drinks in one night more liquor than whole wards of workers from year end to year end, should be in the poor-house,—robust a fact though that is, leaves these Prohibitionists unmoved. The law of wages, which establishes penury for the proletarian, however sober he may be, and abundance for the capitalist class, however rum or champagne suddenly it may be, is a closed book to the Prohibitionist.

In manner that follows no special economic lines of reasoning, but simply photographs reality, Eugene Sue covered the point in one of his many great works—"Martin the Foundling." Martin had been apprenticed to a journeyman mason named Limousin, who got drunk regularly on Sundays. One day Martin asked him why he did so. The following passage therewith occurs in Martin's diary:

"Martin," said he to me, "Sunday is my own; were I not to get drunk on that day, I should go drunk all the week; ay, and more than that, I should become idle, envious, quarrelsome, and some day or other a thief, perhaps even worse than that. I am well convinced of it; the labor and poverty would be too much for me, were there no end or break to them; in short, were they like those long roads of four or five leagues in length, which, when one is on the march, it is enough to break one's heart to see straight before you as far as your eyes can reach: Now, every Sunday, instead of this never-ending straight line of my miserable existence, composed wholly of sharp flints and burning sands, I see cascades of rock water, flowery mountains, enchanted palaces, in a word, my lad, a thrilling assemblage of delights compared to which I look upon the fine chateaux at which I work as so many pig sties, and their fine parks as so many mole hills. On the Mondays, when I return from my excursions, what care I that six currish days have to pass? Do I not see my Sunday at the end of them?"

"I drink, and I have the right to drink, for the purpose of transporting myself out of these surroundings, I know not whither, four or five times a month;—and is not that better than to madden through life?"

"I once asked Limousin, why, seeing that drunkenness seemed so great a comfort to him, he did not get drunk every evening?" His answer was alike, decisive and stern: "Either I must steal in order to have the means of getting drunk without working, and I will not steal, or I should earn enough to buy the means of getting drunk daily. Now, those earnings would suffice for all my wants, I should then be happy:—AND HAVE NO OCCASION TO GET DRUNK TO FORGET THAT HAPPINESS."

With the poor who are held down in misery, drunkenness is but a means of emancipating themselves from physical surroundings that are unhappy. The disease of drunkenness can be cast off only by a healthy social system.

The Prohibitionist, who honestly aims at a "sober nation," belongs in the Socialist Labor Party camp. The Prohibitionist outside got the cart before the horse. Not drunkenness breeds poverty, but poverty breeds drunkenness.

AN "OFFICIAL" PROOF.

The "Official Circular" of the New York Post Office contributes a timely sermon on class-war.

Under the heading "Attempts to Influence Legislation Prohibited," the "Official Circular" calls, by order of the Post Office Department, attention to the Executive Order of Jan. 31, 1902, which it proceeds to publish, as follows:

"All officers and employees of the United States of every description, serving in or under any of the Executive Departments, and whether so serving in or out of Washington, are hereby forbidden, either directly or indirectly, individually or through associations, to solicit an increase of pay, or to influence or attempt to influence in their own interest any other legislation whatever, either before Congress or its committees, or in any way save through the heads of the Departments, in or under which they serve, on penalty of dismissal from the Government service."

We desire to be understood.

It is not possible, and we readily admit it, that Martin Preston, the Presidential candidate of the S. L. P., who was convicted for murder and sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment, is innocent. That he is one of the universally recognized victims of the class struggle who are justly the martyrs of progress is equally possible.

We admit all that as being very probable.

And here we reach the main problems:

May a Party of Socialism nominate a person of that kind?

What is the object of a political campaign, and what must be the object of a party like the S. L. P. in such a campaign?

Presumably its main object must be to carry on Socialist propaganda, and to increase the number of Socialists in the country, as well as the membership of the Party.

How can these things be accomplished?

Simply by attacking the existing system, its phenomena and consequent results.

In order to successfully attack the capitalist system, and to equally successfully propagate Socialism, the candidates must be such that their personalities can not assist in the battle, they should, at least, be no hindrance to the same.

It is the Alpha and Beta of propaganda everywhere of agitation, argumentation and logic generally, not to multiply, but rather to simplify the issues in a campaign of ideas and a mass movement.

To brief, Socialists have to tackle a difficult proposition in making the principles of Socialism comprehensible to the masses, leaving out the question of guilt or innocence of a man, who is guilty before the eyes of the large masses of people, because a jury of 12 citizens so decreed.

We will not mention the fact that Preston, instead of being eligible for office, is ineligible for office. A party and a movement should not be so ridiculous as to nominate a candidate, who, even if elected, could not fill his office, because he has not reached the Constitutional age limit.

In short, the S. L. P., instead of using the opportunity to attack CAPITALISM, will in this campaign BE OBLIGED TO DEFEND ITS OWN CANDIDATE.

This is neither the aim nor the mission of a campaign, and the Party should not have permitted it.

And the worst of it is that by their nominating Preston not only the party that nominated him is put to ridicule, but the enemy will use it to ridicule, and to discredit Unionism at the same time.

The Convention had the right to adopt resolutions condemning the imprisonment of Preston, demanding his liberation and expressing sympathy in every other way.

To nominate him as a candidate, and thus convert the Socialist battle against the capitalist system into a defense campaign for a convicted Socialist, this party might be doing under certain circumstances in certain countries, but not under American circumstances in America.

More closely scanned, the Executive Order is even more iniquitous. Looked at broadly, it would be free from the stigma of "class legislation." It would smite alike the multimillionaire railroad director "whose daughter marries a foreign Prince and whose son is a fool," and the proletarian girl employee in the bagging department whose wages spell "starvation." Closely scanned, however, it is an Order that smites only the proletarian and leaves free the capitalist element in the Department. The proletarian element may in no wise attempt to influence legislation in their interest; the capitalist element is free "directly or indirectly, individually or through associations" to solicit legislation that shall raise the price, already excessive, paid to them by the Government for operating the mails.

There are no classes in the land?

The class struggle is a Socialist invention?

The present Government is not a class Government?

The President is the President of all the people, dealing square deals all around?

The "Official Circular" of the New York Post Office itself answers the questions. It needs no arguments; it furnishes the crushing facts.

Judge Brewer has delivered himself of a speech in which he denounced the boycott, and in which, as a matter of course, he also and even more thrillingly denounced the blacklist. It is essential to denunciations of the civic rights of Labor to couple with it some strong denunciation of the criminal acts of the capitalist. That gives a color of fairness to the unfair act, and enables the press of the capitalist usurper to say, as it is now saying, that "what adds force to Judge Brewer's denunciation of the boycott is that he equally denounced the blacklist." Judge Brewer's denunciation of the blacklist does not add force to his denunciation of the boycott; but his denunciation of the boycott takes away all force from his denunciation of the blacklist.

Did the S. L. P. sin against any one of these tenets?

Let us take up, one by one, the tenets laid down by "Warheit" as canons for Socialist propaganda in a political campaign.

First of all, the propaganda should concentrate upon exposing the phenomena of the existing system.

There is one phenomenon of the existing system that embodies in itself

at once Socialist economics, Socialist sociology, and Socialist practice;

and that, moreover, is not, this year, a phenomenon that requires the raking up of history to exemplify. It is a palpitating phenomenon. It palpitates so strongly

that it takes precedence of all others.

That phenomenon of the present day

system of capitalism is a Court-made

law to the effect that picket-duty is a

crime, and its enforcement by the im-

prisonment of a picketman in a State

penitentiary.

Socialism consists of both aims and

means. Socialist society, the goal of So-

cialist propaganda, is not a social system

whose government consists of Socialist

Legislators and Executives, instead of

the present government of Republican

and Democratic politicians. Socialist

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

THE DIFFERENCE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The convention of the S. L. P. hit the nail on the head when it nominated Comrade M. R. Preston to head our ticket. That the capitalist class got hit in the right spot anybody can see by the howl they are raising. The capitalist class had nothing to say when the S. P. nominated E. V. Debs, but had the S. P. nominated Haywood the capitalist class might have raised a howl, too, because they don't like to see the heroes of the working class brought to the front.

Robert Strach.

San Antonio, Tex., July 12.

PRESTON HEARD FROM IN GEORGIA

To the Daily and Weekly People:—A local paper published a few days ago the following news item:

SOCIALIST IN JAIL; APPRECIATES HONOR.

Nominated as Presidential Candidate, Convict Sends Message of Thanks.

Carson, Nev., July 7.—M. R. Preston, who is serving a twenty-five years' sentence in the Nevada State prison for murder and who was nominated by the Socialist Labor party at New York for President of the United States, gave out the following interview from his cell yesterday. When the telegram announcing his nomination was handed him, he showed no surprise at the news:

"I am well known to members of my party," he said, "and am a Socialist from the ground up. While I am not at liberty to make a statement covering my nomination, owing to instructions from my counsel, Judge Hilton, I recognize the honor conferred upon me and am proud of it."

"If Mr. Hilton desires that I withdraw from the nomination I will ask that my name be taken from the ticket and some other substituted. I have not been officially notified of my nomination by the convention in New York, but will probably receive it in due time."

J. M. B.

Kingston, Ga., July 11.

BISHOP A SPOKESMAN OF THE CRIMINAL CLASS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The "Scranton Times," of July 20, quotes Bishop Hoban on Socialism as follows:

"Socialism of the right kind is all right," said the bishop, "when it means that the one is interested in the welfare of the other, and that one takes care of the other, but when it comes to be an atheistic Socialism it comes in conflict with the Catholic Church, and with Christianity."

Referring to Socialists in this community the bishop warned his auditors not to follow the will-o'-the-wisp writings and teachings of that theory, particularly when it comes to voting. He expressed the belief that the working men would vote intelligently and without fear as their minds dictated. He commanded the miners' union for its efforts to keep down child labor in the mines and factories and urged them to even greater effort.

In conclusion the bishop sounded this warning:

"I appeal to you as a Christian minister to do what you can against this Socialism which sooner or later will destroy our Christianity."

Bishop Hoban has just moved into his \$200,000 house, while some of his poor dupes who have been assessed to pay for it live in filthy hovels in which the bishop wouldn't even house his horses or dog. This man never loses a chance to hit at Socialists. He must have a glimpse at what is coming. He is quite a spokesman for the criminal class—the capitalists.

Scranton, July 21.

WHY NOT SETTLE SCORES NOW?

To the Daily and Weekly People:—That editorial, "The Paramount Issue," in The People, July 10, was a grand presentation of the case in the matter of Preston and the S. L. P. Certain parts of it ought to be printed in foot-long letters and posted all over the principal cities of the U. S.

The opinions of the capitalist papers on the S. L. P. nominations are very amusing reading. But still, close upon the laugh they provoke, follows the question: How much longer is the labor lion going to lie there, a target for the hawks of this capitalist ass? Would not the present occasion, the impend-

HOW THEY HOWL

Comments of the Capitalist Press on the Nomination of Preston.

[A pure invention from the Albany, N. Y., "Telegram" of July 12.]

CONVICT REFUSES.

Will Not Run for President of the United States.

The members of the Socialist Labor Party in New York city were astounded, shocked and angered Wednesday night because after having nominated Martin R. Preston for president he has declined the honor.

Preston is a convict, now in Carson State Prison for having shot and killed a restaurant keeper.

"The man must run," roared Daniel De Leon, the leader of the party. "Whoever heard of any one refusing a Presidential nomination? Preston must be made to understand that he stands a splendid chance of winning. If all the workingmen in the United States would vote for him, he would be elected."

Mr. De Leon paused and drank a glass of beer which an admirer had placed temptingly before him.

"We must compel him to run," continued the earnest party leader; "we must explain to him that he can remain in solitude, while we will do the campaigning for him."

"Then, this is the chance of our lives. I already see the start of the social revolution with Preston as our candidate. We must urge him to run with all the vehemence in our power."

"Gentlemen, it is all plain to me. The capitalistic bloodhounds have been at work. They don't want to see a Socialist seated in the White House, and their base hirelings have forced our candidate to write a letter of declination. They probably put him through the third degree and forced him to do so."

"The capitalist class will stop at nothing to defeat us."

The leaders of the party then got busy and the telegraph wires grew hot with pleadings to the candidate engaged in breaking stones in the prison yard, to change his mind. Another pleading despatch was sent to the candidate's mother, who lives in Los Angeles. It requested her to plead with her son to make the race, "as he surely would be elected."

Half an hour later Mr. De Leon appeared with a satchel as if he was going to make a long trip. It was rumored that he intended to go to Carson City to make a personal appeal to the candidate, but Mr. De Leon became mysterious and would not divulge his destination. He admitted that the Socialists had received a hard blow if Preston persisted in his refusal.

The reasons given by Preston why he does not want to be the party's candidate is, first, that he is only twenty-eight years old and therefore not eligible to run, as the candidate for President must be thirty-five; second, that a convict has no civil rights; and third, that while he has been convicted and sentenced to twenty-five years' imprisonment by the lower court his case is now on appeal and he stood a chance of getting out of prison on a new trial.

"Besides," said Preston to a friend in refusing the nomination, "the Socialists only nominated me because I am in prison and want to make capital out of me. If I hadn't shot a man in self-defense, and if I wasn't in jail, they would not have given me a thought. Run? Yes, after I have been vindicated."

The Socialist Labor Party's executive committee has the right to name a candidate in the place of Preston but all the members declared Wednesday night that they would not give up Preston without a struggle.

Debs Socialists, who have nominated Eugene V. Debs for President, rejoiced because Preston had declined.

Preston, they said, showed good sense by his action.

MURDER AS A POLITICAL ASSET.

In nominating for the Presidency of the United States Martin R. Preston, a convicted murderer and below the constitutional age of eligibility, the Socialist Labor Party has given the editorial writers of the country an opportunity for levity seldom granted in so strenuous a political year. Yet the nomination, as the New York "Tribune" remarks, was not intended as a joke, but was the act of men "bitterly in earnest." Despite the nominee's refusal to accept the honor offered him by his party, the press finds reason to comment at some length upon the spirit which prompted the offer.

Martin Preston is now undergoing a sentence of twenty-five years' imprisonment at Goldfield, Nev., for killing a restaurant keeper there some three years ago. The man had incurred the displeasure of a labor union by discharging some waiter-girls, in defiance of union rules. A boycott was pronounced upon

his place, and Preston was stationed as a "picket" to enforce the boycott. Trouble ensued, and that Preston shot and killed the restaurant-keeper is undoubtedly; but the Socialist-Laborites hold that the act was in self-defense and justified.

"It is a burlesque on Socialism and resembles real Socialism as much as a Maine sardine the genuine French article," is the comment of the Brooklyn "Citizen" upon the nomination. "Preston is the freak candidate of all history," the Cleveland "Leader" remarks, and the New York "Post" believes "that to have killed a restaurant-keeper in the interests of labor is the very latest thing in Presidential qualifications." In speaking further of the trifling task of overcoming these obstacles "The Leader" says:

"If Mr. Preston could be elected and have a chance to qualify as President he could not pardon himself because he was convicted under State, not Federal, laws. And if he could be pardoned he could not qualify. To make him President he would have to be dynamited out of jail while the Constitution was burned by his friends."

This contingency, however, had already been sighted and met by the delegate who put Mr. Preston in nomination. In the spirit of Timothy Campbell's "What's the Constitution between friends?" he said in part:

"Although Preston is not of the age provided in the Constitution for a Presidential candidate, that makes no difference to us. It is for the working people to elect him, and if he is elected he will be seated. Constitutions are for the people, and not the people for the constitutions."

The "Daily People," the official organ of the Socialist-Labor Party, in commenting upon the Presidential ticket, hailed it as a "slogan at the sound of which every workingman should be fired with enthusiasm." It went on to say:

"It is a summons to every bona-fide unionist to rush to the support of his fellow unionist who is thrown in jail by class justice for his firmness on the firing line."

"It is a warning against the evils of pure and simple politicianism."

"It is a symbol of the double weapon that the well-poised revolutionist in the camp of the Labor Movement uses in the class struggle with the capitalist class—the weapon of the ballot, and the weapon of man's natural rights of physical force in self-defense."

"It is an attestation of the untrified posture of the Socialist-Labor Party—the promotion of the emancipation of the Working Class by all available means."

"The nomination is interesting," says the Philadelphia "Ledger," "from the glimpse it gives us into the mental attitude of certain groups of agitators who find the highest claim to distinction in lawlessness and crime." Adds the same paper: "The spirit it illustrates—the spirit displayed at Goldfield, and of which Haywood is a hero—is the same that finds expression in resolutions to restrain the authority of the courts."

The Philadelphia "Inquirer" (Rep.), taking a more serious view of the matter than most of its contemporaries, finds "something pitiful" about the nomination, representing as it does a "faction of people who may mean well, but who are wrong in their philosophy." To quote further:

"The Socialist-Labor party cast about 32,000 votes about four years ago, and these represented a lot of dissatisfied people who thought the country was being ruined by its leaders and that society was built on a false basis. There were more votes cast in 1900, and what the number will be this November is problematical, but is not likely to reach a greater figure than four years ago. These people are not to be condemned out of hand or laughed at. They have a grievance which seems to them so important as to override all other considerations in politics."

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his place, and Preston was stationed as a "picket" to enforce the boycott. Trouble ensued, and that Preston shot and killed the restaurant-keeper is undoubtedly; but the Socialist-Laborites hold that the act was in self-defense and justified.

Now this is somewhat peculiar and is only matched by the performance with the convict in a western penitentiary of whom one of the leaders of the party said that it made no difference what the constitution said, this man would be seated anyhow if elected.

The Socialist-Labor party, as the New

York "Tribune" explains, represents "the dwindling remnant of the earlier converts to the faith in this country, and its spirit is one of protest against the comparatively conciliatory attitude of the more numerous and powerful Socialist party which polled more than 400,000 votes for its candidate in 1904. But to the ordinary man, adds the "Tribune," there seems little practical difference between the two parties. To quote further:

"That the other Socialists should have debated about nominating Haywood, and that nearly half of the delegates to their national convention felt that nothing short of Haywood would adequately express their feeling toward organized government, shows how little real progress the Socialists who have split off from the old irreconcilables led by De Leon have made toward common sense. That is the reason why the ideas of Socialism have spread in this country while the Socialist party stands practically still. It invariably nominates candidates whom only a Socialist, and one of a very irreconcilable sort, could support at the polls, and that is not the way to win votes."

"The Literary Digest."

The national committee of the Socialist Labor Party, which has been turned down by Martin R. Preston, the convict, who in a private telegram to Daniel De Leon, leader of his party, declined its nomination for President of the United States, decided yesterday not to take "no" for an answer and to run Preston for candidate anyway.

An official statement on behalf of the Socialist Labor Party says in part:

"To-day the compact battalion of the Socialist Labor Party, with Preston and Munro inscribed on its banner, takes its stand, intrepid, on the field of this year's presidential contest, cheered by the howls emitted by the manifold foe. So much the better. Let them howl; the louder the merrier."

"With Taft's convention rapped to order by a fatal thirteen strokes of the gavel, and Bryan's nomination made on the fatal Friday, honors may seem easy on that score to the apprehensive watcher for omens. Yet if a bird's-eye view is taken of the two omens, the coincidence cannot be escaped or its significance lost sight of. Both the anti-I. W. W. Socialist party, the unsuspecting but honest ones of his own race who had joined him gave him square pieces of their minds. One of them said: "All that De Leon said about you is true, and a good deal more." Another of his countrymen, one who was onto him from the start, H. Cody of Paraiso, Canal Zone, wrote to him a letter that closed with these words: "I only wish that the O'Donnell family at home raised more sons, and the Carey family less. What are you trembling for?"

In the first place we understand that it has a presidential candidate who is in the penitentiary for killing a man. It is true that he killed his man in a labor dispute and the allegation is made that he killed him in self-defense. The courts, however, did not see it that way, and the man was sent to serve a sentence for a long period, of which twenty years are yet to be served. In addition to that, this man put forward as a candidate for the highest position in the land, some believe in the world, is not of legal age prescribed by the Constitution, namely, thirty-five years of age. It is not known whether he is further disqualified by nature or the constitution or laws of the land. Suffice it to say that if he has other constitutional impediments to be taken into account it is highly probable that each fresh unconstitutionality will give delight to the queer party of which he is a member. To give him credit, however, it can be stated that he has had the sense to resign from the ticket for two reasons, one in his belief that the Socialist Labor party is trading on his situation to make capital for the party, and another is because it would be likely to jeopardize his chances for release in the campaign his lawyers are making for commutation for him.

But the most singular proceeding of this peculiar party is told as follows in an United Press telegram under date of July 11, from Providence, R. I.:

"Few are the men who have refused a nomination to run for the office of President of the United States. The latest addition to the ranks of those who have put aside the crown is Peter McDermott, of this city."

"McDermott drives a team for a local grocery. He was working in the store when a man entered and asked him to run for President on the Socialist-Labor ticket. McDermott refused and said, besides, that he was ineligible, having been born in Scotland. The man who was national secretary, Paul Augustine, of the party, told him that that made no difference, that the profession of Socialism and the personality of the candidate was what counted."

If this travesty on honor and exalted position were originated and upheld by a colony of gibbering idiots it would be readily understood, but upheld and encouraged by a presumably intelligent body of workmen is certainly hard, for us, at least, to understand. The Socialist-Labor party in many other respects seems level-headed, especially in their antagonism to the regular Socialist party, with whom they are at swords points.

The utterances of the Socialist-Labor party seem to be fairly sane in some respects, though the doctrine taught is extreme views noted above.—"Dayton Herald," July 20.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

A. E. B., NEW YORK.—"Dun's" and "Bradstreet's" are purely private concerns.

If they report one injuriously, an action for damages would lie; if they report one more favorably than he deserves, and others are taken in, the parties taken might recover at law, but that is more doubtful. Their method is "moning around."

W. R., SEATTLE, WASH.—Now to your last question—

The last Census gives 24,326 Japanese in the United States. The number of them in business we have no means of ascertaining.

J. W. EVERETT, MASS.—"Mr." is the abbreviation for "Mister." "Mister" is a corruption of the word "Master." With time the corrupted form has acquired the simple meaning of a meaningless title of common address. "Mrs." is the feminine abbreviation.

J. B. J., CHICAGO, ILL.—Preston's age is not a matter that deserves serious consideration. Debs is more than twice his age and will certainly not enter the White House. A miss is as good (bad) as mile along the "get there" argument.

W. A. S., SYDNEY, N. S. W.—Now to your last questions, which may be lumped into one—

The S. L. P. recognizes only language Federations, that is, Federations in languages other than English. The Irish Socialist Federation, or, rather, the pre-tense of one, is nothing of the sort. It was a clownish scheme of James Connolly, with a record for wreck and ruin in his own country, Ireland, whence he recently arrived to disrupt the S. L. P. When he found the jig was up with him and he dropped the mask and came out for the anti-I. W. W. Socialist party, the unsuspecting but honest ones of his own race who had joined him gave him square pieces of their minds. One of them said:

OFFICIAL**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

Paul Augustine, National Secretary,
28 City Hall Place.
CANADIAN S. L. P.
National Secretary, W. D. Forbes,
12 Wellington Road, London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
(The Party's literary agency).
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.
Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p.m.

CONNECTICUT S. E. C.

The S. E. C. of the S. L. P. of Connecticut met at headquarters, 34 Elm street, Hartford, Conn., on July 26. Chas. Backofen of Rockville was elected chairman.

The credentials of the following comrades were accepted and the delegates seated:

Fred Fellermann, Frank Knotek of Hartford, Chas. Backofen of Rockville.

The first order of business was election of officers. The following officers were elected: Secretary-Treasurer, Fred Fellermann; Recording Secretary, Frank Knotek.

The following communications were received, acted on and filed:

From Section Mystic, sending financial report and order for due stamps.

From Section Rockville, regarding the delegate to S. E. C., and inquiring of the benefit to be held.

From Section New Haven, regarding state ticket; that J. P. Johnson of was elected organizer of New Haven, and including \$3 for due stamps.

From N. E. C., regarding Presidential ticket.

The Secretary was instructed to notify all Sections regarding the new election law.

The following motion was carried: "As Sections New Britain and Kensington were twice requested to send delegates to the S. E. C., and did not, therefore Section Hartford and Rockville each should send one delegate more."

It was voted to hold regular meetings every third Monday each month, at 8 p.m., at Headquarters, 34 Elm street, Hartford, Conn.

The Secretary was instructed to write to the National Secretary regarding a speaker to make a tour throughout the state in October. Campaign agitation was discussed, after which the meeting adjourned.

Frank Knotek, Recording Sec'y.

GERMAN PARTY ORGAN OPERATING FUND.

Previously acknowledged	\$295.05
Fred Schuler, Paraiso, C. Z., Panama	1.00
Carl Bertler, Paraiso, C. Z., Panama	1.00
Section Erie, Pa., S. L. P.	10.00
Section Cincinnati, O.	5.00
German Branch, Chicago, proceeds from picnic	20.00
Peter Carlson, Sandusky, O.50
Emil Miller, Cincinnati, O.	1.00
L. Hertz, Minneapolis, Minn.	1.00
O. F. Elmgren, " "25
Peter Riel, " "25
James McCall, Yellowstone Park, Wyoming	2.00
Per P. Kilburg, Detroit, Mich.	
Frank Mueller, \$1.00; Andrew Buetz, \$1.00; Geo. Tucholsky, \$1.00; Georg Kretschmer, \$1.00; G. I. Le Brun, 50c.; Jacob Lutz, 25c.; Max Heinrich, 25c.; Heinrich Corning, 25c.	5.25
Julius Rocker, Shawnee, O.	1.00
Wm. Richter, Middletown, Conn.	1.00
Christ G. Huebner, "	1.00
Total	\$345.90

Comrades: In a circular letter which we have sent out to the Sections we have set forth that the further continuation and existence of our German Party Organ depends upon the possibility of paying off, within three months, an old debt of \$600. All details have been explained in the circular sent out. For the last four years we have not molested the general party membership for any financial aid. Whenever we needed some funds we have appealed to the German party organizations exclusively. But pressing circumstances force us to extend this appeal now to the general party membership. If every comrade does a little towards this fund the task of raising these \$600 will be an easy one. The Sections and comrades always have responded nobly to any call from the party institutions for help. We realize that this is not a very opportune time for our call but we see no other way but this appeal. Quick action is imperative. Send all contributions either direct to the SOCIALISTISCHE ARBEITER-ZEITUNG, 210 CHAMPLAIN AVE., CLEVELAND, O., or to Comrade P. C. CHRISTIANSEN, 2617 SCRANTON ROAD, CLEVELAND, O.

Appeal endorsed by the N. E. C. Sub-Committee.

The German Party Press Publication Committee, Section Cleveland, C. S. L. P.

OPERATING FUND.

Comrades and Friends:—You will see by the poor record of subscriptions and literature orders, in another column, that we are forced to again urge upon you the necessity of helping out on this fund. As we have before, time and again, said, funds must be forthcoming in either of two ways: by subscriptions to the party press, or by contributions of cash to this fund.

We cannot go out and get the subscriptions, we must leave that to you; and of each of you all that is asked is one subscription a month—one reader to be brought in touch with the Weekly people every thirty days. Not an impossible task, is it? Not even a hard task. In fact, we have yet to hear from anyone who will say that it is not a comparatively easy matter to get one new reader a month. If you haven't tried it begin now—if you won't try it and yet you wish to see those institutions go on, then support this fund.

F. Tiddy, Westernport, Md.	\$3.00
S. Thompson, New York City	1.00
Geo. F. Spettel, St. Paul, Minn.	2.00
Dr. Jue Hammer, New York City	2.00
Holger Schmalzlass, Pittsfield, Mass.	\$1.00
John Perz, Ferndale, Wn.	1.00
L. Pilout, N. Y. City50
T. McDermott, San Francisco, Cal.	2.00
E. Rounier, Shawmut, Cal.	2.00
A. C. Wirtz, Barstow, Cal.	3.00
Section Los Angeles, Cal., Proceeds of 4th July Picnic	\$20.00
J. Levoy, Los Angeles, Cal.25
P. C. Peterson, "	1.00
L. D. Bechtel, "50
M. Wheeler, "50
L. C. Haller, "25
J. J. Meighan, Coatesville, N. J.	2.00
Total	\$ 42.00
Previously acknowledged	\$282.44
Grand Total	\$2870.44

Through a typographical error on July 23, 1908, E. T. Oatley, Plainfield, N. J., was credited with \$2 instead of \$1. The total, however, is now correct.

[We have been informed that \$9.75 credited to G. C. McShane, on July 18, was donated by Comrade Porter of San Francisco, Cal., instead.]

JERSEY CITY, N. J.

Open-air meetings will be held every SATURDAY evening, at Newark Ave. and Barrow St. until the close of the campaign.

Campaign Committee.

CLEVELAND, ATTENTION!

The Socialist Leiderlauf, S. L. P., will hold its annual picnic SUNDAY, August 2nd, at Rittersburg, Brooklyn. Take Brooklyn or West 25th street car to barns, then walk, or ride for 5 cents on bus out State road. All members and sympathizers and their families are cordially invited. Good music and refreshments will be provided.

The Arrangements Committee.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

verberations of that victory have gone, like a thunderclap, through the whispering galleries of the East. They have produced the Progressive Movement in China, the Constitutional Movement in Persia, the Revolutionary Movement in Russia, and almost the whole of the activity manifested in different parts of Central Asia."

To meet this situation was the purpose of the Anglo-Russian Convention. The Liberal British Government, hoping to save the lot of its capitalist class in India, seeks alliance with the most brutal and despotic government on the earth, but this will not stay the "unrest" in the Orient.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM IN GREAT BRITAIN

A Historic Economic Sketch of Affairs in Great Britain Down to the Present Time, Shewing the Development of Industries, and of Capitalist and Labor Economic Organizations.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., 28 CITY HALL PLACE NEW YORK.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT**POOR SHOWING FOR THE WEEK, BUT OUTLOOK BRIGHT.**

For the week ending July 24th we received 75 subs to the Weekly and 30 to the Daily People, a showing so poor that it requires no mathematical training to arrive at our net cash income for the week from this source. Now that the campaign has commenced it behoves every chairman at street meetings to consider himself an authorized canvasser for the Party Press and close no meeting until a fair number of subs has been secured. Who will set the pace?

Those sending two or more were:

A. Kaucher, St. Louis, Mo.	3
Fred Brown, Cleveland, Ohio	2
Indianapolis, Ind.	2.10
Spokane, Wash.	1.75
Pittsfield, Mass.	1.50
Chicago, Ill.	2.00
Milwaukee, Wis.	1.00
Coytesville, N. J.	1.00
Canton, Ohio	1.00
Fruitvale, Cal.	4.00
Peoria, Ill.	5.00
Cincinnati, O.	4.20
Blind River, Canada.	1.20
Grand Junction, Colo.	4.00
Brooklyn, N. Y.	12.00
Adamsville, Ala.	1.00
Rossland, Canada	1.00
New York City	3.10

"The Republicans turned us down at Chicago," says Mr. Gompers, "while the Democrats at Denver met us fairly and squarely"; and he gives further evidence of his approval of the labor and injunction plank in the Democratic platform by assuring Mr. Bryan that the labor vote will be counted heavily for him at the November election. The question as to just how far Mr. Gompers can really fulfill this promise is at present troubling the political experts, and the lesser labor leaders are showing signs of resentment over the suggestion that the president of the American Federation of Labor can "deliver" the labor vote.

"Already Mr. Gompers is learning the mistake of counting unhatched chickens," remarks the New York "Globe" (Rep.), adding that "labor leaders with as good warrant as he to speak for trade unions are ridiculing his claims." "Our vote will not be dictated by Gompers," says John E. Pritchard, secretary of the International Union of Pavers, Hammermen, Flaggers, Bridge and Stone-Curbsetters. "Gompers can not influence the votes of the organized workers to any extent," says Henry C. Hunter, commissioner of the National Metal Trades Association. "The labor men who are Republicans will vote the Republican ticket; and the Democrats the Democratic ticket," says James W. Dougherty, secretary-treasurer of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders.

The Brooklyn "Times" (Rep.) finds Mr. Gompers' "assumption" amusing. Even in England, Mr. Gompers' native country, it asserts, "no labor leaders have ventured so audacious a claim." The Chicago "Daily Socialist," arguing in part with the "Times," proceeds to take Mr. Gompers to task for presuming that the Democratic party will fulfill its vows.

"Gompers, abegging and receiving crumbs, and smirking with contentment at the receipt, well symbolize the gentleman's triple office of 'president,' 'editor' and last, not least, 'undertaker' of the civic-federalized system of unionism," is the curt comment with which the "Daily People," the official organ of the Socialist Labor party, dismisses the subject.

"Electoral history gives no warrant for the assumption that Mr. Gompers's declaration for Bryan could transfer the tremendous mass of voters in the Federation of Labor to one side of the political line," says the Philadelphia "Leger" (Ind.). We read further:

"In the records of States and cities there are few instances where the boasts of leaders have been sustained where they have undertaken to carry labor unions bodily to one side of a political contest. The showing is the other way; rather proves that when a labor leader becomes a politician he passes rapidly

Prepaid Cards:

Mrs. O. M. Johnson, Fruitvale, Cal.	\$7.00
Section Spokane, Wash.	5.00
Section Denver, Colo.	10.00
S. Winauer, N. Y. City	5.00

Literature sales have dropped off considerably. Remember that the profits derived from this source are one of the mainstays of the Party's institution. Don't let up in pushing the whereabouts to make converts.

Those sending two or more were:

Jamaica Plains, Mass.	\$3.80
Webb City, Mo.	2.80
Indianapolis, Ind.	2.10
Spokane, Wash.	1.75
Pittsfield, Mass.	1.50
Chicago, Ill.	2.00
Milwaukee, Wis.	1.00
Coytesville, N. J.	1.00
Canton, Ohio	1.00
Fruitvale, Cal.	4.00
Peoria, Ill.	5.00
Cincinnati, O.	4.20
Blind River, Canada.	1.20
Grand Junction, Colo.	4.00
Brooklyn, N. Y.	12.00
Adamsville, Ala.	1.00
Rossland, Canada	1.00
New York City	3.10

CHILDREN'S HOUR**Dear Little Comrades:**

You remember the story of "The White Rabbit," which you were asked to write on?

Lord Pelham on his way from London to his country home, late one afternoon, is suddenly stopped by a man who had hidden between some trees.

"Will you buy my little white rabbit?" asks he of Lord Pelham. Twice Lord Pelham indifferently refuses. But when the man points a pistol at Lord Pelham he replies, "Well, since you put it that way, I guess I do want it." Lord Pelham makes out a note for a thousand pounds and goes home with the white rabbit.

Ten years later, Lord Pelham passes a jeweler's shop in London and recognizes his friend who sold him the white rabbit so much by force. The next evening he appears before the jeweler with a little white rabbit in a basket in one hand, and this time HE points a weapon at the jeweler, asking him to buy his white rabbit. The jeweler realizes that this time he is powerless and pays Lord Pelham the price asked, 1,500 pounds principal and interest.